United Nations A/57/PV.21

General Assembly

Fifty-seventh session

Official Records

21st plenary meeting
Thursday, 3 October 2002, 10 a.m.
New York

President: Mr. Jan Kavan ..... (Czech Republic)

The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Agenda item 119 *(continued)*

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (A/57/440/Add.1)

The President: I should like to draw the attention of the General Assembly to document A/57/440/Add.1, which contains a letter from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly, in which he informs the General Assembly that, since the issuance of his communication contained in document A/57/440, Vanuatu has made the necessary payment to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter.

May I take it that the General Assembly duly takes note of the information contained in this document?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 17

Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments

(f) Appointment of a member of the Joint Inspection Unit (A/57/107)

The President: As indicated in document A/57/107, the General Assembly is required, during the fifty-seventh session, to appoint a member to fill the vacancy on the Joint Inspection Unit that will arise from the expiration of the term of office on 31 December 2003 of Mr. Armando Duque González of Colombia.

As also indicated in document A/57/107, in accordance with article 3, paragraph 1, of the statute of the Joint Inspection Unit, the President of the General Assembly shall consult with Member States to draw up a list of countries, in this case, one country, which would be requested to propose a candidate for appointment to the Joint Inspection Unit.

After holding the necessary consultations, I should like to communicate to the Assembly the information received from the Chairman of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States that the Group has endorsed Trinidad and Tobago to propose a vacancy from among the Latin American and Caribbean States.

In accordance with article 3, paragraph 1, of the statute of the Joint Inspection Unit, Trinidad and Tobago will therefore be requested to submit the name of a candidate and the curriculum vitae highlighting the candidate's relevant qualifications for the task ahead.

After holding the appropriate consultations described in article 3, paragraph 2, of the statute of the Joint Inspection Unit, including consultations with the President of the Economic and Social Council and with the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination, I will propose a qualified candidate to the Assembly for appointment to the Joint Inspection Unit.

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-178. Corrections will be issued after the end of the session in a consolidated corrigendum.

02-61851 (E)

Agenda item 15 (*continued*)

Election to fill vacancies in principal organs

(b) Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council

The President: The General Assembly will now proceed to the election of 18 members of the Economic and Social Council to replace those members whose term of office expires on 31 December 2002.

The 18 outgoing members are: Angola, Austria, Bahrain, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Fiji, France, Germany, Japan, Malta, Mexico, Spain, the Sudan and Suriname.

As of 1 January 2003, the following States will continue to be represented on the Economic and Social Council: Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Bhutan, Brazil, Burundi, Chile, China, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Hungary, India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Italy, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nepal, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, South Africa, Sweden, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Zimbabwe.

The names of these 36 States should therefore not appear on the ballots.

In accordance with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 2847 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971, and taking into account the number of States that will remain members of the Council after 1 January 2003, the 18 members should be elected as follows: five from African States, three from Asian States, one from Eastern European States, four from Latin American and Caribbean States and five from Western European and other States. The ballot papers reflect this pattern.

I should like to inform the Assembly that those candidates, their number not exceeding the number of seats to be filled, who receive the greatest number of votes and a two-thirds majority of members present and voting, will be declared elected. In the case of a tie vote for a remaining seat, there will be a restricted ballot limited to those candidates that have obtained an equal number of votes.

May I take it that the General Assembly agrees to that procedure?

It was so decided.

The President: In accordance with rule 92 of the rules of procedure, the election shall be held by secret ballot, and there shall be no nominations.

Regarding candidatures, I have been informed by the Chairman of the respective regional groups that for the five vacant seats from among the African States, there are five endorsed candidates, namely Benin, the Congo, Kenya, Mozambique and Senegal.

For the three vacant seats from among the Asian States, there are five candidates, namely Japan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mongolia and Saudi Arabia.

For the one vacant seat from among the Eastern European States, there is one endorsed candidate, namely Azerbaijan.

For the four vacant seats from among the Latin American and Caribbean States, there are four endorsed candidates, namely Cuba, Ecuador, Jamaica and Nicaragua.

For the five vacant seats from among the Western European and other States, there are five endorsed candidates, namely France, Germany, Greece, Ireland and Portugal.

In accordance with rule 92 of the rules of procedure, we shall now proceed to the election by secret ballot.

Before we begin the voting process, I should like to remind members that, pursuant to rule 88 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, no representative shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order on the actual conduct of the voting.

I should like to seek the usual cooperation of representatives during the time of the conduct of the election. Please be reminded that, during the voting process, all campaigning should cease in the General Assembly Hall. This means in particular that, once the voting has begun, no more campaign material can be distributed inside the Hall. All representatives are also requested to remain at their seats so that the voting process can proceed in an orderly manner.

We shall now begin the voting process.

Ballot papers marked "A", "B", "C", "D" and "E" will now be distributed. I request representatives to use only those ballot papers and to write on them the names of States for which they wish to vote.

May I ask representatives to write on the ballot papers marked "A" for the African States the names of the five States for which they wish to vote, on the ballot papers marked "B" for the Asian States the names of the three States for which they vote, on the ballot papers marked "C" for the Eastern European States the name of the one State for which they wish to vote, on the ballot papers marked "D" for the Latin American and Caribbean States the names of the four States for which they wish to vote and on the ballot papers marked "E" for the Western European and other States the names of the five States for which they wish to vote.

A ballot paper containing more names from the relevant region than the number of seats assigned to it will be declared invalid. Names of Member States on a b0allot paper that do not belong to that region will not be counted at all.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Babikir (Chad), Ms. Crichlow (Guyana), Mr. Cajuste (Haiti), Mr. Terrazzani (Monaco), Mrs. Garcia (Philippines) and Mr. Staszak (Poland) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The meeting was suspended at 10.40 a.m. and resumed at 11.50 a.m.

The President: The result of the voting is as follows:

Group A — African States

Number of ballot papers:	182
Number of invalid ballots:	1
Number of valid ballots:	181
Abstentions:	3
Number of members voting:	178
Required two-thirds majority:	119
Number of votes obtained:	
Senegal	176
Mozambique	171
Benin	169
Congo	163
Kenya	160
Angola	4
Democratic Republic of the Congo	3
Burkina Faso	1
Cameroon	1
Sudan	1
Tunisia	1

Group B — Asian States

Number of ballot papers	182
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	182
Abstentions:	1
Number of members voting:	181
Required two-thirds majority:	121
Number of votes obtained:	
Saudi Arabia	140
Japan	133
Malaysia	123
Mongolia	64
Lebanon	61
Bahrain	1
Fiji	1
Jordan	1
Turkmenistan	1
United Arab Emirates	1

Group C — Eastern European States

Number of ballot papers:	182
Number of invalid ballots:	3
Number of valid ballots:	179
Abstentions:	2
Number of members voting:	177
Required two-thirds majority:	118
Number of votes obtained:	
Azerbaijan	177

Group D — Latin American and Caribbean States

Number of ballot papers:	182
Number of invalid ballots:	1
Number of valid ballots:	181
Abstentions:	0
Number of members voting:	181
Required two-thirds majority:	121
Number of votes obtained:	
Jamaica	178
Ecuador	174
Cuba	170
Nicaragua	159
Suriname	2
Costa Rica	1
Mexico	1
Venezuela	1

Group E — Western European and other States

Number of ballot papers	182
Number of invalid ballots:	1
Number of valid ballots:	181
Abstentions:	1
Number of members voting:	180
Required two-thirds majority:	120
Number of votes obtained:	
Germany	179
Greece	177
France	173
Ireland	164
Portugal	163
Spain	1

Having obtained the required two-thirds majority, Azerbaijan, Benin, Congo, Cuba, Ecuador, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Portugal, Saudi Arabia and Senegal were elected members of the Economic and Social Council for a three-year term beginning 1 January 2003.

The President: I congratulate those States that have been elected members of the Economic and Social Council. I would also like to thank the tellers for their assistance in this election.

This concludes our consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 15.

Programme of work

The President: I should like to make an announcement concerning agenda item 21, entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief of the United Nations, including special economic assistance".

I have requested Mr. Hubert Wurth, Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations, who during previous sessions so ably coordinated the informal consultations on draft resolutions under the same agenda item, to assist once again in the same capacity at this session, and Ambassador Wurth has graciously accepted.

May I request those delegations intending to submit draft resolutions under agenda item 21 to do so as early as possible in order to allow time, if need be, for negotiations with a view to reaching consensus on the draft resolutions.

Representatives are requested to consult the *Journal* for the announcement of the time, date and venue for the first meeting of the informal consultations. I should also like to remind members that agenda item 21 and its sub-items (a) to (c) will be considered on Monday, 25 November.

The meeting rose at 12 noon.